

Christmas Work Basket.

Novel Remembrances in New Stitches.

BY M. LE MONT.

TO BE in keeping with the spirit of the times, the Christmas remembrances that the needlewoman will fashion from now on until just before the advent of this auspicious day should be in the new stitches that have been brought out during the last few months.

This season Broderie l'Anglaise (English embroidery, or "cut-work") and Hardanger embroidery, or Scandinavian stitch, and Spachtel work, a revival of an old combination of cutwork, lace and embroidery stitches, are all rivals for feminine favor. The English embroidery and Spachtel work are the newest among these, but Hardanger embroidery seems to have secured a firmer foothold in the household. There is, also, a

loped edge is finished last in either buttonhole or embroidery stitch; then the rough edge is cut away.

In daisy centers and grape clusters, and as decorations about a design, many little holes are seen in fine cut-work. To make these, run a filling thread in a tiny circle, punch a stiletto through the middle and work the edges as in the leaf and flower petal. A combination of cut-work and embroidery is lovely, and so are combinations of cut-work and lace.

In making a cuff and stock set for a friend, work the cut-work design first, then embroider in satin stitch embroidery whatever flowers and leaves then embroider the scallops on the edge, or hemstitch a narrow hem. Such a set is both handsome and useful. The ends of neckties are finished in the same manner.

The same style of work may be elaborated in table sets, dressing table scarfs and mats for flower vases. In the adornment of silk and cloth dresses cut-

thread. Any fullness at the neck may be taken in at the shoulder.

Worked in pink and white and lined with white silk, a small cover for a papier-poudre book, made in Hardanger stitch, would be charming. This book is scarcely larger than a book of cigarette papers, and might be held in place with baby ribbon and have a baby ribbon bow in front to fasten with. Papier-poudre is a useful gift in itself, but all the more acceptable in some daintily embroidered concealment.

Opera and slipper bags for use at winter entertainments are so desirable that a woman cannot have too many of them. A novel one is made by taking a large piece of white brocaded silk and stamping the initials of the prospective owner in the middle of one side. The stamping is then fastened over an embroidery hoop and worked in raised embroidery in silk satin stitch. Two shades of gold, or gold and white, make a pretty combination for the letters.

The outline of flowers may be discernible in the white silk. In that case, outline these by stitching little gold sequins or tiny gift beads along the edges of the flowers and stems, outlining each petal and stem. The leaves, too, may be outlined in the same manner, but this makes the design lose in airiness.

Next, sew the sides of the bag to two small oblong pieces of silk with a square top edge. The bag is pleated or gathered to the side pieces and the top finished by sewing the fullness under a purchased gift bag top or by hemming the top of the bag to a band through which ribbons or all other cords may be drawn together. There are so many ways of finishing the tops of bags that every woman may put her own top finish to one.

The lining is of gold or white silk, and has a pocket of the same in each side, put in before the lining is sewed in the bag. The pockets are for handkerchief, purse and opera glasses. This idea in gold and black, or steel on black, is handsome.

Coronation braid has come extensively into use for fancy work, and is a boon to the woman who has not time for tedious stitches. It has the appearance of hand embroidery at present in stitch. Bedroom sets are lovely worked over with this braid, which is simply sewed to the stamped design. It is more effective when mingled with hand embroidery. It is particularly appropriate for collars for school children and for braiding children's clothes. Parallel lines of it are filled in with French knots and crows' feet.

The woman does not live who would not joyfully welcome at Christmas time a set of large embroidered initials in a frame, all ready to sew on to her household linen, or a set of tiny ones to apply to the corners of her handkerchiefs. Nor is any one proof against a fine handkerchief with the initials in the corner and a border of honiton braid wrought with lace stitches by hand.

The Flemish stitch is the most popular among lace stitches at present. It represents figures in solid outlines upon a perfectly square mesh. Flemish lace braid is used in working the designs, and the mesh is worked in Flemish stitch, which forms absolutely even squares between the figures.

Yokes for corset covers and chemises as well as for dresses are greatly designed in this form of expensive lace, and pieces of it are exceedingly valuable in decorating the neck and sleeves of a dress. There is no limit to the Christmas gifts which may be made of Flemish lace, but it is as tedious as it is fashionable.

Drawnwork, with which women are familiar, is popular for making household decorations and trimming for dresses.

Shoulder scarfs are so popular that a handsome one might be made as a Christmas gift by cutting one out of chiffon and sewing two rows of honiton lace braid around the border and then embroidering a cluster of flowers in satin stitch in each corner. One may buy a piece of Oriental silk all ready embroidered, cut out the figures and apply them to the ends of a chiffon scarf with beautiful effect.

Men enjoy having embroidered and cross-stitched slippers given them, as well as neatly embroidered handkerchiefs, so that the needleworker may plan and make Christmas gifts for all her family and friends.

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50c

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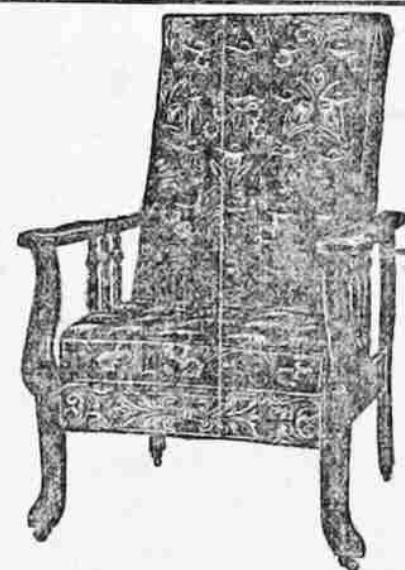
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